



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR


STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

July 23, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Head Start Collaboration Grant Funds

The Head Start Act of 2007 Section 642B contains provisions for the award of a collaboration grant to each state to facilitate collaboration among Head Start and Early Head Start agencies and entities to carry out activities designed to benefit low-income children from birth to school entry and their families.

Per federal statute, grant funds are available to both operate a state Head Start Collaboration Office and support the development of state level partnerships that assist in building early childhood systems and access to comprehensive services and support for all low-income children; encourage widespread collaboration between Head Start and other appropriate programs, services, and initiatives; augment Head Start's capacity to be a partner in Michigan initiatives on behalf of children and their families; and facilitate the involvement of Head Start in state policies, plans, processes, and decisions affecting the Head Start target population and other low-income families.

With the approval of the Michigan FY 2011-2015 federal application, up to \$140,000 annually is designated for Head Start Collaboration Grant Funds. Eligible applicants include local and intermediate school districts, Head Start and Early Head Start grantees, human service agencies, private non-profit organizations and agencies, advocacy organizations, institutions of higher learning, and others with appropriate expertise and experience.

Criteria for this grant award are presented in the attachment.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for Head Start Collaboration Grant Funds as identified by the Head Start Act of 2007, Section 642B and as presented in the Superintendent's memorandum of July 23, 2012.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

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Criteria for Head Start Collaboration Grant Funds

The State Board of Education has adopted as its goal "Continue developing an effective and equitable performance-based system that achieves academic growth and successful outcomes for all students."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal.

PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

The Support to the *Head Start Collaboration Grant Funds* supports the Board's expectation of *Improved Student Achievement Through Innovation and Early Education and Care* for all children by supporting the continued development of an effective early childhood system. The development of this system will allow for the MDE Office of Great Start to achieve its intended outcomes, support comprehensive services for all low-income children, and support the priorities of the Michigan State Board of Education.

PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT

X Competitive ☐ Formula ☐ New ☐ Continuation

Collaboration on behalf of children and families is one of Head Start's highest priorities. Since 1990, the Administration on Children and Families (ACF) has awarded Head Start collaboration grants to support the development of multi-agency and public/private partnerships at the state level. Michigan has successfully supported this collaboration since 1992 and currently is in year two of a five-year award cycle through 2015.

Michigan's partnerships are intended to: assist in building early childhood systems and access to comprehensive services and support for all low-income children; encourage widespread collaboration between Head Start and other appropriate programs, services, and initiatives; augment Head Start's capacity to be a partner in Michigan initiatives on behalf of children and their families; and facilitate the involvement of Head Start in state policies, plans, processes, and decisions affecting the Head Start target population and other low-income families.

The MDE Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO) plays an important role in supporting state and local level partnerships among Head Start, child care, preschool, and other early childhood entities as providers of comprehensive early childhood services. As Michigan continues to expand investments in coordinated services for young children and their families, many providers collaborate with Head Start in a variety of ways. HSSCO plays a significant role in the development and enhancement of state-level efforts to build early childhood systems through linkages, coordination, and integration of policies and services.

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved NEW

X Defined in Statute ☐ Defined in Department's Approved Grant Application to the Funder ☐ Proposed by Staff

The main criteria upon which subgrantees will be selected are the following:

- Assist Head Start agencies to collaborate with entities involved in state and local planning processes to better meet the needs of low-income children from birth to school entry and their families;
- Assist Head Start agencies to coordinate activities with the state agency responsible for administering the state program carried out under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.), and other entities providing resource and referral services in the state, to make full-working-day and full calendar year services available to children;
- Promote alignment of curricula used in Head Start programs with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and, as appropriate, state early learning standards;
- Promote the continuity of services offered in Head Start programs as outlined by the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and, as appropriate, state early learning standards;
- Promote strong linkages between Head Start agencies and other child and family agencies, including agencies that provide health, mental health, or family services, or other child or family supportive services, such as services provided under section 619 or part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.); and
- Support the goals and objectives identified by the federal Office of Head Start, including the ten priority areas as identified by the Head Start Act of 2007, and priorities identified by the regional office to support the development of effective early childhood systems to support low-income children in each state.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT

Eligible applicants include local and intermediate school districts, Head Start and Early Head Start grantees, human service agencies, private non-profit organizations and agencies, advocacy organizations, institutions of higher learning, and others with appropriate expertise and experience.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

Up to \$140,000 is available for the grant project awards annually. Funds are available as part of a five-year grant award for the Head Start-State Collaboration Office with annual renewal contingent upon availability of funds and federal Office of Head Start approval.

STATUTE

Governing legislation is the Head Start Act of 2007 Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 (PL 110-134), HEAD START COLLABORATION; STATE EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE [42 U.S.C. 9837b]

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

Office of Great Start/Head Start-State Collaboration Office
Director: Jeremy C. Reuter 517-335-9172